Depletion of Ozone Layer

766. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the United National Agency's report regarding the increasing threat of skin cancer and cataract arising due to the depletion of ozone layer caused by several gases released from industries; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Country Programme was prepared after detailed all-round consultation to provide assistance for funding the component of incremental costs including transfer of technology from the Multilateral Fund for phasing out Ozone Depleting Substances. Steps have been taken to create awareness of the need to protect Ozone Layer and fiscal incentives have been provided for phasing out Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS) by Industries.

[English]

Infiltration

767. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Pakistani forces resorted to unprovoked firings across the borders and the LOC along Jammu and Kashmir during the recent assembly elections in the State besides perpetrating militancy, infiltration of militants and smuggling of arms;

(b) if so, the details of such incidents; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the period from 7th to 30th September, 1996 when the Assembly Elections were held in Jammu and Kashmir the number of such unprovoked firing incidents by Pak Forces along the Line of Control and International Border in Jammu and Kashmir was 184.

(c) Pakistani Forces resort to unprovoked and recurring firing across the International Border and Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir to facilitate infiltration of militants from across the border. Indian Forces counter such firings and are always in a state of readiness to thwart the evil designs of Pakistani Forces.

Per Hectare Production of Coconut

768. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of oilseeds brought under the Technology Mission; and

(b) the per hectare production and productivity of coconut and oilpalm in the country particularly in Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh respectively?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) The Oilseed included under the Technology Mission are Groundnut, Soyabean, Sunflower, Sesamum, Castor, Niger, Rapeseed and Mustard, Linseed and Safflower. In addition oil-palm has also been included.

(b) The per hectare production/productivity of coconut and oilpalm is as follows :

State	Coconut Production/ Productivity/ No. of Nuts/ha.	Oilpalm Production Productivity fresh fruit bunches Matric tonnes/ha.
Andhra Pradesh	13642	4.00
Karnataka	5179	3-4
Kerala	5888	5.85
Tamil Nadu	12139	Plantation still in vegetative phase.

Oil from the fresh fruit bunches is available from the 4th year and the production of oil is stabilised from 8th year onwards of the planting.

[Translation]

Official Language Department in Home Affairs

769. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a Department of official language in the Ministry of Home Affairs for which the Hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs does not find time and as a result the reconstitution of Hindi Advisory Committee of any Ministry is not done in time and if it is reconstituted it does not sit four times in a year;

(b) whether the Hindi Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Home Affairs has also not held its meeting four times in a year;

(c) whether none of the Departments even in exception, has been able to meet the targets fixed in the annual programmes regarding the progressive use of Hindi even during last 23-24 years;